Atty Dkt. No.: IRVN-007CON2

USSN: Unassigned

	EXPRESS MA	AIL CERTIFICATE	~ fu		
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. ' 1.10 on date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231					
Typed or Printed Name	Margaret Pierce	Express Mail No.	EL 563 388 228 US		
Signature	Whene	Date	December 29, 2000		

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  Address to: Commissioner for Patents	Attorney Docket	IRVN-007CON2
	First Named Inventor	Gatanaga et al.
	Application Number	Unassigned
	Filing Date	Herewith (December 29, 2000)
	Group Art Unit	Unassigned
	Examiner Name	Unassigned
Washington, D.C. 20231	Title: "FACTORS AFFECTING TUMOR NECROSIS FACTOR RECEPTOR RELEASING ENZYME ACTIVITY"	

Sir:

ij

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

## In the Specification

On page 1, line 4, after the first instance of the word "application", insert—is a continuation of US Application Serial No. 09/712,813, filed November 13, 2000 and --.

On page 1, line 4, after "of", insert -International Application No. PCT/US99/10793, filed May

14, 1999 and f

On page 1, line 6, delete "application is" and insert therefore --applications are--.

On page 1, line 6, delete "its" and insert therefore --their--.

## In the Claims:

Cancel claims 1-32 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

33. A method of screening substances for an ability to affect TRRE activity, comprising:

a) incubating TNF receptor or cells expressing TNF receptor with a polypeptide in the presence

of the substance;